

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for controlling water and electrolyte balance and acid-base equilibrium in a patient undergoing an operation or in a postoperative patient, comprising administering continuously to the patient a preparation solution containing 130 to 145 mEq/L of sodium ion, 2 to 5 mEq/L of potassium ion, 20 to 35 mEq/L of bicarbonate ion, 90 to 130 mEq/L of chloride ion, 2 to 5 mEq/L of calcium ion, 0.5 to 2.5 mEq/L of magnesium ion, 1 to 7 mEq/L of citrate ion, and 0 to 5g/L of glucose at a rate of ~~2 to 60 mL/kg/hour~~ 5 to 20 mL/kg/hour in an amount sufficient to control water and electrolyte balance and acid-base equilibrium in the patient.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): A method for controlling water and electrolyte balance and acid-base equilibrium as claimed in claim 1, wherein data of blood gas analysis is observed as an index parameter of the water and electrolyte balance and acid-base equilibrium in the patient.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 15, wherein the infusion speed is adjusted in order to maintain a plasma bicarbonate concentration to be in a range of 22 to 26 mEq/L.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the water and electrolyte balance and acid-base equilibrium to be controlled ~~said patient~~ supervenes metabolic acidosis.

Claim 5 (Withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said patient in need of such treatment suffers from burn injury.

Claim 6 (Withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said patient in need of such treatment suffers from hemorrhagic shock.

Claim 7 (Withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said patient in need of such treatment suffers from multiple organ failure.

Claim 8 (Withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said patient in need of such treatment suffers from systemic inflammatory reaction.

Claim 9 (Canceled).

Claim 10 (Withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said patient in need of such treatment suffers from hypohydremia.

Claim 11 (Withdrawn): A pharmaceutical composition for controlling water and electrolyte balance and acid-base equilibrium, comprising 130 to 145 mEq/L of sodium ion, 2 to 5 mEq/L of potassium ion, 20 to 35 mEq/L of bicarbonate ion, 90 to

130 mEq/L of chloride ion, 2 to 5 mEq/L of calcium ion, 0.5 to 2.5 mEq/L of magnesium ion, 1 to 7 mEq/L of citrate ion, and 0 to 5g/L of glucose.

Claim 12 (Withdrawn): A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 11, wherein said composition is in a form to be administered at a rate of 2 to 60 mL/kg/hour and maintain a plasma concentration of bicarbonate ion of 22 - 26 mEq/L.

Claim 13 (Withdrawn): A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 11, wherein a source of citrate ion is sodium citrate and pH of the agent is adjusted to 6.5 to 7.4 by carbon dioxide gas.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn): A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 11, wherein said agent is filled in a carbon dioxide gas permeable plastic container sealed with gas un-permeable film, or in a gas un-permeable container.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the infusion speed of administration or demedication of the preparation is adjusted based on the blood gas analysis.

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): A pharmaceutical composition for controlling water and electrolyte balance and acid-base equilibrium in a patient undergoing an operation or in a postoperative patient, comprising 130 to 145 mEq/L of sodium ion, 2 to 5 mEq/L of potassium ion, 20 to 35 mEq/L of bicarbonate ion, 90 to 130 mEq/L

of chloride ion, 2 to 5 mEq/L of calcium ion, 0.5 to 2.5 mEq/L of magnesium ion, 1 to 7 mEq/L of citrate ion, and 0 to 5 g/L of glucose.